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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, REGION 2

Caribbean Environmental Protection Division City View Plaza II, #48 Carr 165 Ste 7000 Guaynabo, Puerto Rico 00968-8073

SEP 1 4 2017

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Randy Jansen, President Peñuelas Valley Landfill, LLC. P. O. Box 918, Punta Santiago Puerto Rico 00741-0918

Re: EPA's Review of Documents

Administrative Compliance Order Docket Number CWA-02-2017-3103 NPDES Tracking Number PRR053203

Dear Mr. Jansen:

On March 1, 2017, EPA issued Administrative Compliance Order, Docket Number CWA-02-2017-3103 ("ACO"), to Peñuelas Valley Landfill, LLC¹ ("PVL") for its failure to comply with certain conditions and requirements of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Multi-Sector General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Industrial Activity ("2015 MSGP") at its landfill facility located at Road PR-385, Km .4.5, Tallaboa Ward, Peñuelas, Puerto Rico ("Landfill" or the "Facility").

The ACO required PVL, among other things, to: amend the electronic Notice of Intent submitted to EPA to obtain coverage under the 2015 MSGP to reflect the actual operator of the Landfill²; prepare and submit a Work Plan including an implementation schedule of the tasks to be performed to achieve compliance with the 2015 MSGP; prepare and submit Monthly Progress Reports (MPRs); and submit monitoring documentation regarding follow-up actions taken when discharge exceeds numeric effluent limitation for Total Suspended Solids (TSS).

EPA has carefully reviewed the documents submitted by PVL³, and has determined that the ACO has not been fully complied with. The following ACO provisions remain outstanding:

1. The Work Plan submitted pursuant to ACO Paragraph 63 did not include: best management practices ("BMPs) for erosion and sediments controls for the stabilization of exposed soils, as required by Part 2.1.2.5 of the MSGP⁴; a revised SWPPP for the Landfill to comply with Parts 4 and 5 of the 2015 MSGP; and the estimated costs for achieving compliance, including capital costs of the proposed BMPs, including the operations and maintenance costs associated with any future plan developed as part of the Work Plan.

¹ The ACO was originally issued to Peñuelas Valley Landfill, LLC and EC Waste, LLC.

² The NOI was originally submitted by EC Waste, LLC instead of Peñuelas Valley Landfill, LLC.

³ EPA reviewed PVL's letters dated March 20, March 23, April 5, April 19, May 17, and June 22, 2017.

⁴ The inclusion of a fixed-date schedule for soil stabilization practices was required in the ACO Paragraph 63.

- 2. PVL has not submitted the July 2017 MPR, as required by ACO Paragraph 64.5
- 3. PVL has not submitted documentation of the actions taken, pursuant to Part 6.2.2.3 of the 2015 MSGP, after exceeding the effluent limitation for TSS on the sampling performed on October 18, 2016, as required by ACO Paragraph 65.

In addition, EPA's review of the sampling performed on October 18, 2016 revealed that PVL also exceeded the effluent limitations for Benzoic Acid, Biochemical Oxygen Demand, and Zinc, and also failed to provide evidence that it had conducted follow-up monitoring for these parameters.⁶ **Attachment 1** of this letter includes a table summarizing the effluent limits exceedances based on the laboratory report of analysis for the October 18, 2016 sampling event.

In regards to the preparation and implementation of the rainfall data collection, management, and record keeping standard operating procedure, and stormwater sampling standard operating procedure, required under ACO's Paragraphs 63.e and 63.f, respectively, EPA will address such compliance in a future communication.

Within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of this letter, PVL must address the outstanding ACO provisions identified above and submit the required information to EPA. In addition to the July 2017 MPR, PVL must continue submitting the subsequent MPRs until such time the ACO is deemed closed by EPA. All MPRs shall include, among other things, the precipitation data collected and related information as provided for in ACO Paragraph 63.

Any document submitted by PVL shall include the certification specified in ACO Paragraph 67, and shall be sent via certified mail (or its equivalent) to the addresses specified in ACO Paragraph 68, or by electronic submission.

This letter shall not be deemed an election by EPA to forego any administrative or judicial action for penalties, fines, or other appropriate relief under Section 309 of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1319, arising from EPA's investigation of PVL's compliance with the CWA. We remind you that failure to comply with the ACO may subject the PVL to ineligibility for participation in work associated with Federal contracts, grants, or loans.

⁵ The MPR shall include a cost report detailing the expenses incurred, as of the date of the MPR, concerning the milestones and activities performed towards meeting the provisions of the ACO.

⁶ PVL must comply with the follow-up actions, pursuant to Part 6.2.2.3 of the 2015 MSGP, for all exceedances of numeric effluent limitations.

If you have any questions concerning the above, please have your staff contact Mr. José A. Rivera, Lead Environmental Engineer, Clean Water Act Team, at (787) 977-5842 or rivera.jose@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Nancy Rodríguez, P.E.

Chief

Multimedia Permits and Compliance Branch

Enclosure

cc: Ángel Melendez, EQB (via e/mail)

René R. Rodríguez (via e/mail)

ATTACHMENT 1

EPA reviewed the information that PVL submitted in NeT (https://testngn.epacdxnode.net/) and available at the Enforcement and Compliance History Online (https://echo.epa.gov/), and the laboratory report of analysis for the October 18, 2016 sampling event. The review revealed that PVL reported exceedances of the Benzoic Acid, Biochemical Oxygen Demand, TSS and Zinc. The following table includes a summary of the reported laboratory results.

SAMPLING EVENT - OCTOBER 18, 2016					
PARAMETER	EFFLUENT LIMIT	REPORTED VALUE			
Benzoic Acid	0.12 mg/L (daily maximum)	9.57 mg/L			
Benzoic Acid	0.071 mg/L (monthly average maximum)	9.57 mg/L			
Biochemical Oxygen Demand	37 mg/l (monthly average maximum)	77.5 mg/L			
Total Suspended Solids	88 mg/l (monthly average maximum)	1,510 mg/L			
Total Suspended Solids	27 mg/l (monthly average maximum)	1,510 mg/L			
Zinc	0.20 mg/L (daily maximum)	0.312 mg/L			
Zinc	0.11 mg/l (monthly average maximum)	0.312 mg/L			

Notes: See Table 8.L-2 in Part 8.L.10 of the 2015 MSGP. PVL had not provided evidence that it had conducted follow-up monitoring for the other three parameters (Benzoic Acid, BOD and Zinc) it had exceeded the applicable effluent limits.